

# CHINA BULLETIN

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## CATHOLIC NEWS

The Catholic Patriotic Association is going ahead aggressively with the election of new bishops to take the place of those imprisoned or otherwise under attack, and is claiming this as a national right. Their news organ in Shanghai had an editorial on February 27, excerpts from which are given herewith: "We can now no longer have any illusions about the Vatican and we must ourselves assume responsibility with regard to the problem of bishops; we ourselves must elect them and consecrate them. . . . Some say that the person of the bishop must be approved by the Vatican, otherwise we should be in schism. We ask: On what foundation does this objection rest? . . . It is precisely because we conform ourselves to the doctrines that are to be belied and to the rules that are to be put in practice, it is precisely because we love religion and wish to propagate the Faith, that we cannot permit the Vatican to carry on sabotage against the Church of China and it is for this reason that we ourselves want to elect our bishops."

In accordance with this principle two bishops have been elected in the Wuhan region, and the election duly reported to Rome. Rome however refused to confirm the elections, and the latest news is that on April 9 great mass meetings of Catholics were held in Wuhan in protest against the Vatican. This protest is probably due to the difficulty of finding bishops to confer episcopal consecration. On April 9, 1951, the Supreme Congregation of the Holy Office decided as follows: "The Bishop, no matter what his rite or dignity, who confers episcopal consecration upon an ecclesiastic who has not been named by the Holy See or expressly approved by the Holy See, and he who receives such consecration, even under pressure of grave fear, incur ipso facto excommunication reserved specialissimo modo to the Holy See." So the Patriotic Association may go ahead and elect, but who will dare to consecrate?

## G. ENDICOTT

Former Canadian missionary J. G. Endicott is Vice-president of the World Peace Council (Communist peace front). The Bureau of this WPC met in New Delhi in March, and at a press conference there on March 25 Mr. Endicott announced that the WPC would hold a congress for armament and international co-operation in Stockholm July 16-22.

Sixty members of the Bureau were present from 29 different nations. This is the policy-making body of the Council. Mr. Nehru addressed the Bureau on March 22 and expressed his appreciation for their approval of the famous Five Principles of Co-existence. He pointed out that the great obstacle to peace was fear, and the only way to overcome fear is to find a way to convince others of our bona fides. He concluded with a sentence which though undoubtedly applicable to both sides in the cold war going on throughout the world must still have packed a special sting for some of the members of that Communist peace front: "It is not for me to give advice, but I would submit that, in working for peace, we should keep our minds peaceful and informed bi-weekly to keep mission boards and missionaries informed on Christian work in China. Information from Chinese church magazines and other Chinese sources is passed on as objectively as possible, with a minimum of interpretation. When interpretation is necessary, it is enclosed in parentheses as the comment of the editor. ANNUAL RATES: Domestic, \$2.00; Overseas, Firstclass \$4.00, Secondclass \$3.00. Airmail \$5.00 in 15¢ zone, \$7.00 in 25¢ zone."



our actions peaceful."

The March issue of the Endicott Canadian Far Eastern Newsletter has an article by Rewi Alley, giving an account of what Attorney A. L. Wirin did in China in seeking evidence for the defense of the Powells and Julian Schuman, in the case against them in our Federal Courts for treasonable statements in the China Monthly Review. They returned home in 1953, but proceedings against them were not instituted until 1956. Mr. Alley says that Mr. Wirin interviewed such Christian leaders as Y. T. Wu, T. C. Chao and Bishop K. H. Ting. The attorney has now returned to the United States, and it is reported that the trial is set (in the Federal District Court in California) for July 14.

### PRISONERS OF LIBERATION

This interesting book by Allyn and Adele Rickett (Cameron Associates, New York, 1957, \$4.75) is an account of "brain-washing" procedure from the inside. The two authors were Fulbright scholars in Peking at the time when the Communists came to power, and staid on to continue their studies at Tsinghua and Yenching Universities. They were arrested in July 1951 and spent four years in a Communist prison, after which they were released and returned to the United States in September 1955. The Epilogue is dated 18 months later, giving them an opportunity to get their prison experiences somewhat into perspective. In a seven-page introduction the publishers tell how they submitted the manuscript to various experts, including historians and psychiatrists, and then summarize the conclusions offered by these experts.

The book itself is written in alternating sections by the two authors. We are thus enabled to see how the thinking of each of them gradually changed under the impact of the "brain-washing" treatment they were receiving.

The strange thing for the average American reader will be the degree of success which the treatment achieved. There were, I think, two elements in the situation that made for compliance. First, they both had guilty feelings about the mild degree of "spying" which they had been carrying on - nothing which any other country would consider actionable -, and secondly, in spite of their high degree of American education they both seemed to be lacking in any positive social ideals by which they could judge the Communist propaganda and find it wanting. The result was that in spite of the brutal treatment they received - shackling, occasional blows, spitting in the face, etc. - they gradually succumbed to the propaganda of their persistent questioners and their cellmates, and came to regard these as the exponents of a higher social morality. Strangely enough however, and certainly much to the disgust of their former "educators" if the latter should ever learn about it, this transformation in their thinking has not led them down the Communist road. The book ends with this summary of the "basic conclusions at which we arrived in China concerning a moral outlook on life": "The Christian commandment 'Love thy neighbor as thyself', and the concept that one must find his own happiness in that of the common good provide for us the only possible way to live." The reality of this new ideal is borne out by the fact that now as a student at the University of Pennsylvania Rick is doing a full-time job in volunteer work with boys in a downtown Philadelphia church.

The authors maintain that the change in thinking which they underwent was not due to any diabolical brain-washing hocus-pocus. Dell writes, "My ideas in prison had undergone a change, but this was due to a perfectly rational process of examining my thoughts, testing them in the light of objective facts and moral principles, and arriving at new conclusions where I found my former ones to be wrong." In another place she speaks of the People's Government as "working on her conscience."

In the Epilogue we find that the chief modification in their favorable view of Communist China concerns its manipulation of the news. They now recognize that in China "publication of news is determined by its usefulness in... furthering the Communist Party's program," and this they recognize to be a dangerous violation of the right to know. However, even here they think that "the Chinese today are still receiving a clearer picture of what is happening here than the American people are of what is taking place in China."

This is a faithful account of the "educational" process carried out in Communist prisons, though perhaps with a certain amount of idealization of the educational means, and as such it



orthy of attention by all interested in the Communist manipulation of minds.

## MICHAEL LINDSAY

Lord Michael Lindsay, a former Yenching University professor, spent some time during the war in Yenan, where he was on friendly terms with Mao Tse-tung. In 1954 he visited Peking as interpreter for Clement Attlee and the British Labor Delegation. He has a Chinese wife and three children, and is now a professor in the University of Australia.

This past winter he visited Formosa and planned to go from there to the mainland, studying conditions in both places and comparing results. Also he wanted to take his wife and three children for a visit with her family in Peking. He had received a visa to enter China, but when the family arrived at the border on February 8 they were informed by the border guards that their visa had been revoked and they could not enter.

Back in Hong Kong Lord Lindsay wrote a letter to Mao Tse-tung in which he said, "When we were in the wilderness together we were good friends. But now you live in the city and have repudiated your former friends." He told Hong Kong reporters, "The Peking Government is evidently afraid that I will see evidences of their mismanagement of the country. If they have nothing to cover up, why should they be afraid for me to visit Peking?"

## AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES AS SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Many new primary and middle schools are being opened in China on a semi-private basis, with the agricultural co-operatives taking the responsibility. In Kiangsu every co-operative is to open a primary school, and 4,298 middle schools are planned, which will mean at least one middle school for every one of the 2,000 townships in Kiangsu. In Kiangsi Province, Pingchien County has announced that it has enough primary schools to take care of all the 40,000 school age children in the county. This was accomplished by the co-operatives opening 320 primary schools to supplement the 424 public schools of the county. Many middle school students have been drafted into service as teachers in these new primary schools.

## MISSIONARY NEWS

86-year-old Danish missionary Ellen Nielsen is still in China, living at Takushan in Liaotung Province. Before the Communists took over she had obtained Chinese citizenship. The Danish Missionary Society has recently received a letter from her, saying that she intends to stay in China until she "sets out on the long journey."

Miss Helen Willis continues to live and work in Shanghai. Of the little church in the compound where she lives she wrote recently, "We are hoping to have baptisms here tomorrow, even young people and I hope two older women." Miss Willis is manager of the Christian Book Room.

Recent deaths: A. L. Warnshuis, formerly with the Reformed Church of America Mission in Amoy, and senior secretary of the International Missionary Council, on March 17, at the age of 80.

Dr. Earl Cressy has a new book, *Understanding China*, published 1957 by Thos. Nelson and Sons, New York, \$5.00.

Word has been received that the Chinese Communist authorities have taken over the property of the Peking Union Church. The local trustees, consisting of the Swiss, Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish ambassadors in Peking, were not certain of their own legal status as trustees, and therefore have not ventured to make any protest. Our report states that the keys of the property have been taken over and the lock on the street gate changed.

## CHURCH NEWS

Franciscan scholars of the Studium Biblicum, formerly of Peking and now in Hong Kong, have published a new Chinese version of the Bible in nine volumes, and copies have been sent



to various places on the mainland. In the Preface to the Prophetic Books, reference was made to the persecution of the church now going on in China. The Catholic Patriotic Association of the Lanlung Diocese has passed a resolution of protest, in which it "expresses its indignation and affirms that all is fine in China."

The Christian Book Room in Shanghai is reporting increasing business, "each month a little more than the one before." More orders are coming in from country places. "In several places churches are being reopened, and in some of them they find on resuming services that the number of Christians has increased." The Book Room has been allowed to print some tracts.

Z. K. Zia, formerly one of the Secretaries of the Christian Literature Society, preaches every Sunday at the Endeavorers Church in Shanghai.

News from Chekiang indicates that the churches are active there. 500 baptisms have been reported from Wenchow during the past two years. "In one village where at the time of the withdrawal there were only three or four Christian families, now there are only that number who do not believe."

A letter from inside China states, "The Holy Spirit is working quite apart from man's efforts, raising up helpers from the common people, a carpenter here, a vegetable seller there, a country woman in several places. One such is in touch with some 700 Christians, and ministers to their spiritual needs."

In a small town in the far west, three miles from the Russian border, there are two churches, a Chinese church and a Russian church. The former began with eight members, but now has 15. The Russian church continues to get Russian Bibles from Hong Kong and sends them over the border into Russia.

We have reported in the past how there has been difficulty in getting the churches of Wenling County in Chekiang reopened. We now learn that nine of them have been reopened recently.

A letter from Shanghai states, "The annual Christmas carol service was held as usual, on December 23. The program was one which might have been given any year prior to Liberation and after. Mr. J. R. Monchatre, the French representative, and Victor Emanooden were in charge, with about 30 in the choir. The new manager of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank and his wife were in the choir, and rehearsals were held in their home."

The Chinese Christian Fellowship in New York has begun in April a Newsletter to take the place of the old CSAS Newsletter. The Fellowship carries on a church program, with a service in Mandarin every Sunday afternoon at four in Riverside Church. The Fellowship Center is at Apartment MD, 549 West 123rd Street, Telephone MO 6-3230.

## GENERAL NEWS

In the present irrigation campaign in China, there are a number of large projects for utilizing the Yellow River. The largest of these, just east of Kaifeng, will irrigate 1,320,000 hectares of farmland in the adjoining sections of Honan and Shantung. This project is scheduled to be completed by June 1.

China's first cancer hospital, in Peking, began to take in in-patients on March 15. It is of 150 bed capacity, and is equipped with a gammatron and other equipment from the Soviet Union. It also has facilities for research.

Our readers are aware that cities such as Peking and Shanghai are separate administrative areas, not under their respective provincial authorities. The municipal jurisdiction of Peking has now been extended to include the counties of Shunyi, Tunghsien, Tahing, Liangsiang and Fangshan and the town of Tungchow. This was considered necessary for control of the supply of subsidiary foods for the capital.

A national conference on publication work, held in Shanghai during March, was attended by representatives of 92 publishing houses. The Vice-minister of Culture, Chen Ke-han, said at the Conference that "there should be more publication of books useful to the country's socialist construction and the people's ideological education. Those which are useless or even harmful should be published only for the purpose of conducting analytical criticism, so as to educate the people."

A national health conference was held in Peking in March, at which it was confidently predicted that "China's four pests - rodents, flies, mosquitoes and grain-consuming sparrows - and also virulent diseases that were formerly widespread, will exist no more." It is expected that malaria will be wiped out within three years. During the Conference Minister of Health Li Tehchuan urged co-operation between workers in Western and Chinese traditional medicine in order to develop China's medical legacy.